

COOPERATIVE CONSERVATION PARTNERSHIP INITIATIVE
Ranking Category—CENTRAL GREAT PLAINS SHELTERBELT RENOVATION

Primary Resource Concern—

- **Degraded Plant Condition - Undesirable Plant Productivity (Agroforest)**

Eligible Land Uses—

- **Crop, Forest, Range, Farmstead, Pasture, Associated Agriculture Land**

Additional Requirements for this Category—

- **The producer must develop and implement a Forest Stewardship/Management Plan with the Kansas Forest Service (KFS).**
- **This ranking category is specifically for the renovation of existing shelterbelts.**
- **In order to receive points for the state issues question 6, the planner and the participant will be required to document the type of catastrophic weather event and the date of the event.**

State Issues—

Answer the following question if the application is for development of a Conservation Activity Plan (CAP). The agency will assign significant ranking priority and conservation benefit by answering “Yes” to the following question. Answering “Yes” to question 1 will result in the application being awarded the maximum amount of points that can be earned for the state priority category.

- (1) Is the program application to support the development of a CAP? If the answer is “Yes,” do not answer any other state level questions. If the answer is “No,” proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section. (400 points)

If applicable, answer ONE of the following questions related to the KFS Potential for Forest Stewardship Program Benefits. If none apply, leave the answers “NO”:

- (2.1) A HIGH forest stewardship potential exists for greater than or equal to 50 percent of the unit of concern. (200 points)
- (2.2) A combination of MEDIUM and HIGH forest stewardship potential exists for greater than or equal to 50 percent of the unit of concern. (100 points)
- (2.3) A combination of LOW and MEDIUM forest stewardship potential exists for greater than or equal to 50 percent of the unit of concern. (50 points)

If applicable, answer the following question related to windbreaks that offer wind erosion protection to cultivated cropland with a wind erosion C factor of 40 or higher. If it doesn’t apply, leave the answer “NO”:

- (3) Windbreak offers protection to cultivated cropland with a wind erosion C factor of 40 or higher on greater than or equal to 50 percent of the unit of concern. (100 points)

If applicable, answer ONE of the following questions related to at risk species. If neither applies, leave the answers “NO”:

- (4.1) The entire unit of concern (100 percent) is located within the Bobwhite Quail Initiative Area and treatment of the resource concerns will benefit the species. (10 points)
- (4.2) Any part of the unit of concern, but less than 100 percent, is located within the Bobwhite Quail Initiative Area and treatment of the resource concerns will benefit the species. (5 points)

Answer the following question related to partner funding assistance:

- (5) Producer has secured funding for portions of the project from other contributors, which may include, but is not limited to, conservation districts, U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, Kansas Alliance for Wetlands and Streams, or other cost-share programs. (5 points)

If applicable, answer the following question related to the windbreak condition. If it does not apply, leave the answer "NO":

- (6) Any part of the windbreak is severely damaged by catastrophic weather related events (drought, tornado, storm damage) and wildfire. (25 points).

Local Issues –

Answer the following question related to the application:

- (1) Is the program application to support the development of a CAP? If the answer is “Yes,” do not answer any other local level questions. If the answer is “No,” proceed with evaluation to address the remaining questions in this section. (250 points)

If applicable, answer ONE of the following questions related to windbreak condition. Refer to Kansas Forestry Technical Note No. 11. If neither applies, leave the answers “NO”:

- (2a) Windbreak is in POOR condition as defined in Kansas Forestry Technical Note No. 11. (35 points)
- (2b) Windbreak is in FAIR condition as defined in Kansas Forestry Technical Note No. 11. (15 points)

If applicable, answer only ONE of the following questions related to the location of the application “YES.” If neither applies, leave the answers “NO”:

- (3a) Any part of the unit of concern is located within a Kansas Department of Health and Environment identified high priority Total Maximum Daily Load (TMDL) watershed for dissolved oxygen. (35 points)
- (3b) Conservation practices to be installed are located on land with a wind erodibility index of 8.0 or above. (15 points)

If applicable, answer ONE of the following questions related to the function of the shelterbelt. If neither applies, leave the answers “NO”:

- (4a) Shelterbelt will be fenced to prohibit use by livestock but will be adjacent to an area where livestock are kept, or will be designed to provide wildlife habitat. (30 points)
- (4b) Shelterbelt will be adjacent to farmstead without livestock and will not be designed to provide wildlife habitat. (15 points)

Within this set, determine the priority based on location of tree plantings. Please only answer one of the questions within this set. Answer “No” if there has been any removal of stumps.

- (5a) Tree removal will not include tree stumps and roots. Existing vegetation between tree rows will be controlled and tree planting will occur on the site where trees were removed. (25 points)
- (5b) Existing vegetation between tree rows will be controlled and/or existing shelterbelt will be expanded in width. (10 points)